



Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition

Sue Kupillas, Coordinator

www.roguevalleycleancities.org

Coalition History

Rogue Valley Clean Cities was one of the first 10 coalitions created by the U.S. Department of Energy through the Energy Policy Act of 1992.



DOE Alternative Fuels
Data Center



Coalition History

- Rogue Valley Transportation District helped start the coalition in the early 1990s. Scott Raben was the first coordinator, followed by Steve Vincent of Avista Utilities.
- Sue Kupillas, a former Jackson County Commissioner, became coordinator 4 years ago.



Coalition History

➤ Board Members

- Mike Montero (Montero and Associates)
- Steve Vincent, outgoing, Kris Ransom, incoming (Avista Utilities)
- Julie Brown (General Manager, Rogue Valley Transportation District)
- John Vial (Jackson County Roads Director)
- Gary Hall (Pilot Station)
- John Becker (Department of Environmental Quality)
- Luis Brito, owner of John's Auto Care, specializes in propane, CNG conversions.



Coalition Status and Mission

- Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition received 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service on April 5, 2011. The coalition is registered as a non-profit corporation with the Oregon Secretary of State.
- Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition is made up of businesses and public agencies working together to encourage the use of alternative fuels. The coalition strives to advance the nation's economic, environmental and energy security by reducing dependence on foreign oil.



Coalition Stakeholders

- *Rogue Valley Transportation District.* Since 1994, RVTD has used clean-burning natural gas in 15 of its 23 fleet buses. RVTD is Oregon's only transit district with a dedicated CNG fleet.
- *Rogue Disposal and Recycling:* The private, regional waste company plans to convert waste trucks to CNG soon. Until then, the company continues to operate waste trucks with diesel traps to reduce emissions.



Coalition Stakeholders

- *AVISTA Utilities.* For 20 years, Avista has been an active part of coalition efforts to encourage alternative fuel use. Avista donates CNG-powered fleet vehicles to local cities and serves as a resource for the transit district's CNG fleet and public fueling station.
- *Jackson County:* The county is in the process of converting some of its fleet to propane as a transition fuel. Long-range plans include CNG fleet conversions.



Coalition Stakeholders

- *City of Medford.* The City of Medford Public Works Department purchased a CNG-powered street sweeper in 2011 and is collecting data about its performance to share with other fleet managers.
- *City of Ashland:* The city has participated in coalition education events and is in the process of installing electric vehicle charging stations in public parking lots.



Fleet Outreach

- **Crater Lake Trolley** operates five CNG fueled vehicles at Crater Lake National Park. The 4 Chance Trolleys and 1 Doge van provide clean, domestically-fueled vehicles to transport 1,000s of visitors to Oregon's only National Park.
- **Combined Transport** is a locally-owned trucking firm with 325 heavy duty diesel trucks operating in the lower 48 states and Canada. Combined Transport uses more than 6.7 million gallons of diesel a year. The company would like to convert to a cleaner, domestic fuel for their fleet but the lack of fueling infrastructure remains a barrier. They are looking at ways to decrease fuel use per truck.
- **Rogue Valley Transportation District** operates 8 HD diesel busses, 21 paratransit vans and 15 HD CNG Buses. The CNG buses offset 126 thousand gallons of diesel each year. RVTD is committed to increasing its alternative fuel fleet. Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization provided a CMAQ grant to purchase up to 10 LPG (propane) paratransit vans. RVTD requested additional CMAQ funds to purchase two more CNG buses.



Fleet Outreach

- **Central Point Public Works:** The Central Point City Council approved the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles. The city received a CMAQ grant to purchase 7 police vehicles and 6 public works trucks to be converted to propane hybrids. The public works director hopes that all of his future vehicles will be powered by alternative fuels.
- **City of Ashland:** The City of Ashland is working with Oregon Department of Transportation on the installation of two fast-charging stations for electric vehicles on Interstate 5. The city is also working on the location of four, electric vehicle charging stations on public parking lots downtown and is considering purchasing electric vehicles for city fleets.
- **Brammo Inc.,** manufacturers of Enertia, Enertia Plus and Empulse electric motorcycles, has expanded its international outreach. The Hong Kong police department recently announced it will purchase Brammo motorcycles. In the United States, Brammo electric motorcycles are sold at Best Buy.



Fleet Outreach

- **Rogue Valley International Airport-Medford:** The airport purchased electric lift equipment for maintenance use. The administration is interested in looking at both alternative fuel vehicles and 100% electric for the tarmac and terminal.
- **Rogue Waste System** uses B-20 for half of the fleet diesel. They are currently working on a feasibility study to convert landfill gas (methane) to CNG for fueling fleets. The study will evaluate the potential to provide fuel heavy duty fleets in the Rogue Valley using converted landfill gas.
- **Schwan's Home Service:** Schwan's has used propane to fuel delivery trucks since 1974. They currently have 7 propane vehicles in the Rogue Valley and 65 propane vehicles in Oregon. They have had trouble purchasing heavy trucks for conversion after Ford and GM ceased production of the chassis that Schwan's traditionally used for cold boxes. Recently they bought a diesel truck from International for propane conversion.



Regional Projects

- The Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization awarded Jackson County and Rogue Disposal and Recycling a \$100,000 CMAQ grant to study the conversion of landfill methane to natural gas for a local fleet fuel supply. The study will evaluate the Dry Creek Landfill specific feasibility for conversion of landfill gas to compressed natural gas. Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition featured this project at a stakeholder event.
- The Medford-Ashland area is now a participant in the EV Project after a request was made by the Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition. The EV Project is funded by a \$99.8 million Recovery Act grant through the U.S. Department of Energy. Oregon originally was scheduled to receive 2,500 public charging stations installed between Portland and Eugene. Former Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski announced the EV extension to Southern Oregon at a Medford City Hall news conference sponsored by Rogue Valley Clean Cities and ECOtality. The state will soon install Level 3 fast charging stations along I-5 near Ashland.



Regional Projects

- Rogue Valley Transportation District received funds from Federal Highway Administration Surface Transportation (STP) program and Oregon's Connect Oregon III to upgrade and increase the capacity of the CNG compressors to fuel fleets. This will result in lower fleet cost and increased transit fleet range. Four dispensers will allow for more vehicles fueling at once and the new station height will accommodate larger vehicles such as garbage trucks. RVTD and Jackson County operate CNG fueling stations open to the public.
- In June, Avista, the local distribution company that serves Southern Oregon, committed \$2 million for conversion of company vehicles and fueling stations upgrades to allow for public access. Avista will open stations in Klamath Falls and Roseburg.
- The Energy Solutions Center, made up of the nation's local distribution companies, agreed to include a CNG workshop at each of the organization meetings. The Technology and Marketing Assessments Forum will explore the use of compressed natural gas in fleet vehicles and equipment options. Kris Ransom, an incoming RVCCC board member, participates in the forums.



Coalition Newsletter, Website, Twitter

Zero Race Comes to Medford, Oregon

US Cellular Community Park, November 14, 2010



Renewable energy students Spencer Cooper, Corbin Jahn and Brian Cooper and mechanical engineering student Gerald Davis, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls.



The crowd enjoys the interaction of Germans Meander, Bauman and Sven Lehmann with John Bartel of KORY Channel 12, Jamie Lusch and Damian Mann of the Mail Tribune.



Medford Challenge: Race Director Louis Palmer instructed the Zero Race teams to push their scooters 30 feet to determine which vehicle was the lighter. The winners would gain extra points for the day.



Medford Challenge: After reviewing the film, Louis Palmer and Mike Grubbs determined the Germans the winner. The audience awarded consolation points to the Australian team.



The Chronicle

www.roguevalleycleancities.org July 13, 2011

June 29 conference: fleet leaders explore local CNG fuel supply



Rogue Disposal & Recycling announced a plan to convert landfill gas (methane) to natural gas and make alternative fuel available for Jackson County, cities and commercial fleets. Also, Rogue Disposal will begin converting its waste truck fleet to CNG. "Wouldn't it be great if the banana peel you throw away is used to power the garbage trucks that come and pick up trash in the neighborhoods," asked Garry Penning of Rogue Disposal.



Kris Ransom, Manager of Industrial Markets, said Avista is exploring ways to provide CNG fueling stations across Oregon.



Charles Longmire of the City of Medford and Tim D'Alessandro of RVTDC discuss CNG technology and the City of Medford's new CNG street sweeper.



D'Alessandro has led his crews in the since 2004. RVTDC received a loan to accommodate larger vehicles. Smith of Rogue Disposal talks Scheuerman.

standing conference: Kris Ransom.



The Chronicle

Volume 3 Issue 13 June 16, 2011 www.roguevalleycleancities.org

SOU test system on Ranger

ern Oregon University electric Ford Ranger at Union courtyard in people stopped by the electric motor un-battery management. Patrick Box of visitors the 48 cells founder Melissa converted truck is ing," Brandao said.



REDCloud Founder Melissa Brandao and Southern Oregon University Fleet Manager Drew Gilliland showcase the electric Ford Ranger.

Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition maintains a popular website, publishes a well-read newsletter and is building a Twitter following. The Board of Directors asked the staff to increase the coalition's social media presence through Facebook and Linked In. Visit the website www.roguevalleycleancities.org

Alternative Fuel Vehicles | Alternative Fuel Locator | Fuel Economy & Incentives | Fleet Support

- About The Organization
- News & Resources
- Clean Cities Events
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NEW ON THE WEB: [Find fueling stations in Southern Oregon](#)

Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition is made up of businesses and public agencies working together to encourage the use of alternative fuels. The coalition strives to advance the nation's economic, environmental and energy security by supporting local practices that reduce dependence on foreign oil. The coalition develops public and private partnerships to promote alternative fuels, advanced vehicles and idle reduction. RVTDC works with stakeholders committed to regional strategies and opportunities to advance the Clean Cities mission statement. RVTDC is one of 85 coalitions sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program. RVTDC is a non-profit 501(c)(2) organization. [July 22, 2010](#). Learn more from the U.S. Department of Energy's [Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy](#) website.

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Coalition Events 2011



Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition held 9 stakeholder events in 2012. The goal was to educate people about alternative fuels and invite the media to report on it. About 400 people attended the events. But the coalition reached thousands more through television coverage, news stories in the Mail Tribune newspaper and live interviews on radio shows. We advertised the events through our email distribution list of 150 names and through the website.



RedCloud May 19, 2011



Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition, Southern Oregon University and RedCloud demonstrated an electric vehicle monitoring system at the student union courtyard. An estimated 50 people and three television stations attended. SOU displayed the Ford pickup converted to electric power. Shorepower provided a demo charging station. Representations from the cities of Medford and Ashland attended.



Fleet Managers, June 29, 2011



Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition, Jackson County and Rogue Valley Transportation District sponsored a fleet managers conference about CNG vehicles held at the public works auditorium in White City. The event included a forum, an outdoor vehicle demonstration, lunch and a question and answer period. About 50 people attended. Four television stations and the Upper Rogue Independent newspaper covered the event.



Electric Car Show, August 17, 2011



August 18, 2011

By John Darling
for the Mail Tribune

Seeking an up-close inspection of new gas-unfriendly cars, potential buyers flocked to a plug-in electric car showing Wednesday in Medford, where they learned grant money is arriving for placement of the all-important charging stations in the "electric corridor."

Showing off his all-electric Nissan Leaf at the event Wednesday outside Rogue Federal Credit Union, Justin Denley, an information tech worker with the credit union, said he may have made a trailblazing journey in it, taking his family to the coast with one planned overnight stop for charging in O'Brien, 65 miles away.

"I bought it mostly for city driving, around the valley," said Denley, noting he has been able to drive his Leaf at in-town speeds for as far as 116 miles without a recharge.

Denley said he received \$7,500 in federal tax credits and \$1,500 in state tax credits against the sticker price in the low \$30,000s.

Showing how his new Chevy Volt plugs into regular household current, Derek DeBoer, general manager of Town & Country in Ashland, said, "I absolutely love it, it's one of the finest automobiles I've ever driven. It's the best of both worlds."

Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition sponsored an electric car show and forum held at Rogue Federal Credit Union. About 75 people attended the outdoor car show and the forum was packed with people interested in learning more about electric vehicles.

Participants included one of the region's first Nissan Leaf owners, representatives from Lithia Nissan and Town and Country Chevrolet dealerships and the Rogue Federal Credit Union talking about low-interest loans for alternative fuel vehicles. Four television stations and the Mail Tribune newspaper covered the event.

Zero Race, November 2010



Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition sponsored a pit stop of the 80-day, around-the-world Zero Race that started in Geneva. Exhausted but triumphant German and Australian team drivers of electric concept vehicles arrived in Medford escorted by a rider on a Brammo electric motorcycle. The City of Medford and local businesses provided charging stations, meals and lodging. By the time the teams reached Medford, they had covered 25,884 miles. Drivers battled tough weather, bad roads and fatigue. In Oregon, the adventures included dodging deer on the I-5 and slowing to 45 mph over the Sexton Summit.



Propane Grand Opening, Feb. 9 2011



Rogue Valley Clean Cities celebrated the grand opening of the region's only 24-hour propane fueling station. Clean Cities served sparkling cider and pizza. Alliance Auto Gas and Blue Star representatives demonstrated the refueling system using a dual fuel Crown Victoria. Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition provided opportunity for media interviews.



AFV Update, Low Carbon Fuel



- Rick Wallace of the Oregon Department of Energy presented an update April 20 about electric vehicle charging stations and new EPA standards for conversion kits. KDRV Channel 12 featured the event on the nightly news.
- Cory Wind of DEQ talked about Oregon's new fuel standards and why alternative fuels will be important in Oregon's future. The March 22 event was sponsored by Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition and the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization. Leaders in the audience included Jackson County Commissioner Don Skundrick and City of Medford Councilman Al Densmore.





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